



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

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Burn ban reinstated for Friday morning

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, JULY 19, 2018:

NEW BRAUNFELS — After a week of hot and dry weather, Comal County will be back under a ban on outdoor burning, effective 6 a.m. Friday, July 20.

The Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) this week reached 500, which is the threshold at which the Commissioners Court typically considers implementing a burn ban. Every 100 points of the KBDI is roughly equivalent to an inch of dry soil depth. As of Thursday, it stood at 536.

Under the restrictions, no open flames are allowed outdoors – including trash burning, campfires and torches, among others. Residents may cook outdoors with an open flame if the barbecue grill has a lid and is set off the ground. Welders are encouraged to use a spotter for any outdoor welding and to keep a water source nearby.

In recent days, several non-controlled fires have been reported to emergency services across the county, Fire Marshal Kory Klabunde told Commissioners Court, which approved reimplementations of the ban Thursday morning.

“The rain earlier this month gave us a nice reprieve,” Klabunde said, “but the return of 100-degree days and clear skies means the risk for fires has again made outdoor burning too dangerous.”

The order banning outdoor burning lasts for 90 days. More information is available on the Fire Marshal Office’s webpage, mycomalcounty.com/Fire_Marshal.htm, and Facebook page, facebook.com/ComalCountyFireMarshalsOffice.

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